Exhibit A

Docket No: 110,00810101

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

We, Olav R. Lyngberg, Michael C. Flickinger, L. Edward Seriven H. and Ren Anderson, declare that: (1) our respective citizenships and residence/mailing addresses are indicated below; (2) we have reviewed and understand the customs of the specification identifical below, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to herein, (3) we believe that we are the original, first, and joint inventors of the subject matter in

COMPOSITE DEVICES INCORPORATING BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL AND METHODS

Filing Date: 29 September 2000

Serial No.: 09/647,475

described and claimed therein and for which a patent is sought; and (4) we hereby achievabledge our duty to disclose to the United States Parent and Trademark Office all information known to us to be material to the patentability as defined in Trite 37, Code of Pederal Regulations, \$1.56.

We hareby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119(a)-(d) or §385(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below, or §365(a) of any PCT international application which designates at least one country other man the United States of America listed below, and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or any PCT international application having a filing date below that of the application on the basis of which priority is claimed:

X no such applications have been filed.

b. __ such applications have been filed as follows:

FORET	GN APPLICATION(5), IE 95 USC §119(6)-(d	'ANY, CLAIMING PRIORY), \$365(a), and/or \$365(b)	TY UNDER
COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	DATE OF ISSUE (day, month, year)

	ALL FOREIGN APP	LICATIONS, IF ANY, F	LED BEFORE THE PRIC	RITY APPLICATION(S)
	COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	DATE OF ISSUE (day, month, year)
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L				

This 37. Code of Federal Regulations, \$1.58 is reproduced on the attribut page.

Declaration and Power of Attorney

Serial No.: 09/647,473

Filing Date: 29 September 2000 Int'l Piling Date: 17 September 1999

Tale: COMPOSITE DEVICES INCORPORATING BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL AND METHODS

Page 2 of 4

We hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code §119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

- 6. ___ no such applications have been filed.
- b. X such applications have been filed as follows:

PROVISIONAL APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, UNDER 35 USC \$119(e)
APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)
60/100,914	17 September 1998

We hereby cisim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States applications or §365(c) of any PCT international application(s) designating the United States of America, listed below.

- a. ___ no such applications have been filed,
- b. K such applications have been filed as follows:

APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	STATUS (patented, pending, abandonod)
PCT/US99/Z1581	17 September 1999	Completed

Less far as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT international application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, we acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

The undersigned declare further that all statements made herein of their own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and helicituse believed to be true; and further that these statements were smale with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, ander Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false sustements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

We hereby appoint Ann M. Macting (Reg. No. 33,977), Kavis W. Rassch (Reg. No. 35,651), Mark J. Gebhardt (Reg. No. 35,518), Victoria A. Sendberg (Reg. No. 41,287), David L. Provence (Reg. No. 43,022), Matthew W. Adams (Reg. No. 43,459), Lores Albin (Reg. No. 37,763), Brian J. Walsh (Reg. No. 45,545), and Kathleen L. Franklin (Reg. No. 47,574) our amornous with full powers (including the powers of appointment, substitution, and revocation) to proceed this application and any divinium, continuation, continuation, in-part, recommendation or reliance thereof, and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Page 3 of 4

Declaration and Power of Attorney

Scrial No.: 09/647,475

Filing Date: 29 September 2000

(If different than Residence)

Int'l Filing Date: 17 September 1999

THE COMPOSITE DEVICES INCORPORATING BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL AND METHODS

Pleasa direct all correspondence in this case to:

Attention: Ann M. Mueting Mueting, Reasch & Gebhardt, P.A.

P.O. Box 581415

Minnsupolis, MN 55458-1415 Telephone No. (612) 305-1217 Castomer Number 26813

Whenefore, we pray that Letters Patent be granted to us for the invention described and claimed in the specification identified above and we hereby subscribe our names to the foregoing specification, claims, and Decimation, on the date indicated below.

AL	in K Lynny . 7/01/	
Name: Citizembio:	Olse K. Lyngherg United States of America	Dan
Residence: Minling Addre	6 Pictiment Drive, Princeton Aurerica, New Jursey 08550 USA	-
(If different the		
Name:	Michael C. Flickinger	Dat
Citizenship;	United States of Ameica	
Residence: Meding Addre		
(If different the	m Residence)	e i e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e
Name:	L. Edward Scriven II	Dul
Citizanulup;	United States of America	24
Residence	2044 Coular Lake Parkway, Minneapolia, Minneapta 55416 USA	
Mailing Addre	na: An Residence)	
Name,	Roa Anderson	Dat
Citizenehipe	United States of America	<i>7</i> 4
Residence: Mailing Addre	13645 Chevett Avenue, Apple Valley, Minneson 55124 USA	

Declaration and Power of Astorney Serial No.: 09/647,475 Filing Date: 29 September 2000 Int'l Filing Date: 17 Septembar 1999

Page 4 of 4

THE: COMPOSITE DEVICES INCORPORATING BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL AND METHODS

\$ 1.56 Duty to disclose information material to patentability.

A patent by its very sature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information knows to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the parentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duly to sobmit information which is not material to the patental-lity of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is descried to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by \$\$1.97(b) (d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violeted through bad faith or faturational subscendurt. The Office encourages applicants to carcibly examine:

Prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent cities in a counterpart application, and

- The classest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent (2) application believe any pentilog claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.
- Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and
 - Il establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prime facie case of unpatentability **(1)** of a claim; or (2)

It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:

- **(i)** Opposing an argument of unputcatability rolled on by the Office, or
- Asserting as argument of putertability. **(1)**

A prime facts case of unpatementity is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unputentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden of proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to extablish a contrary conclusion of patentability.

- Individuals associated with the filting or preservation of a patent application within the meaning of this (c) section are:
 - (1) Each inventor asserd in the application;
 - Each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and
 - Byery other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignce or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to medge the application.
- Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclusing information to the alloracy, agent, or inventor.
- In any continuation-in-part application, the thity under this section includes the duty to disclose to the Office all information knows to the person to be material to patentability, as defined in paragraph (b) of this section, which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

Docket No: 110,00810101

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

We, Clav K. Lyngberg, Michael C. Flickinger, L. Edward Seriven II, and Ron Anderson, declare that: (1) our respective citizenables and residence/mailing addresses are indicated below; (2) we have reviewed and understand the contents of the specification identified below; including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to herein, (3) we believe that we are the original, first, and joint inventors of the subject matter in

COMPOSITE DEVICES INCORPORATING BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL AND METHODS

Filing Date: 29 September 2000

Sectal No.: 09/647,475

described and claimed therein and for which a patent is sought; and (4) we hereby acknowledge our duty to disclose to the United States Parent and Trademark Office all information known to us to be material to the patentability as defined in Trate 37, Code of Pederal Regulations, \$1.56.

We hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119(a)-(d) or §365(b) of any foreign application(s) for parent or inventor's certificate listed below, or §365(a) of any PCT international application which designates at least one country other than the United States of America listed below, and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on the basis of which priority is claimed:

a. X no such applications have been filed.

b. ___ such applications have been filed as follows:

FOREI	GN APPLICATION(8), 1F 35 USC § 119(a)-(d	ANY, CLAIMING PRIORY), §365(a), and/or §365(b)	TY UNDER
COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, mouth, year)	DATE OF ISSUE
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ALL FOREIGN AP	ALL FOREIGN APPLICATIONS, IF ANY, FILED BEFORE THE PRIORITY APPLICATION(S)			
COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF STLING (day, month, year)	DATE OF ISSUE (day, month, year)	
			•	

Title 37. Code of Pederal Regulations, \$1.56 is reproduced on the attached page.

Declaration and Power of Automey

Serial No.: 09/647,475

Filing Date: 29 September 2000 Int'l Filing Date: 17 September 1999 Page 2 of 4

Time: COMPOSITE DEVICES INCORPORATING BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL AND METHODS

We hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code \$119(c) of any United States provisional application(a) listed below.

. ___ no such applications have been filed.

b. X such applications have been filed as follows:

PROVISIONAL APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, UNDER 35 USC \$119(0)
APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)
60/100,914	17 September 1998

We bereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States applications or §365(c) of any PCT international application(s) designating the United States of America, listed below.

a. ___ no such applications bave been filed.

b. X such applications have been filed as follows:

APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	STATUS (patented, pending, abandom-t)
PCT/US99/21581	17 September 1999	Completed
		A Company

Insofar as the subject matter of each of the cialms of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States of PCT international application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, we acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

The undersigned declare further that all statements made herein of their own knowledge are tree and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be tree; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 or Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false scattements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

We hereby appoint Ann M. Mucting (Reg. No. 33,977), Kevin W. Reasch (Reg. No. 35,631), Mark J. Gelmartt (Reg. No. 35,518), Victoria A. Sendberg (Reg. No. 41,287), David L. Provence (Reg. No. 43,022), Mathew W. Adams (Reg. No. 43,459), Loca Afhin (Reg. No. 37,763), Brian J. Whish (Reg. No. 43,543), and Kathleen L. Pranktin (Reg. No. 47,574) our atturneys with full powers (including the powers of appointment, substitution, and revocation) to prosecute this application and any division, continuation, continuation-in-part, recommination or triangle thereof, and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Page 3 of 4

Declaration and Power of Attorney

Scriet No.: 09/647,475

(If different than Residence)

Filing Date: 29 September 2000 Int'l Filing Date: 17 September 1999

THE COMPOSITE DEVICES INCORPORATING BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL AND NETHODS

Please direct all correspondence in this case to:

Attention: Ann M. Mueting Mueting, Resect & Gebhardt, P.A.

P.O. Box 581415

Minumpolia, MN 55458-1415 Telephone No. (612) 305-1217 Cnatemer Number 26813

Wherefore, we pray that Letters Patent be granted to us for the invention described and claimed in the specification identified above and we hereby subscribe our names to the foregoing specification, claims, and Declaration, on the date indicated below.

Neme	Olas Maria	<u> </u>
Citizenshin:	Olav K. Lyngberg	Dat
Residence:	United States of America	1 (
Meiling Addre	6 Pietmont Drive, Princeton America, New Jersey 08550 USA	
(It questions where	SEC	
(u mixerent na	n Kestoenee)	
1/1/	well C. Hish 8-15	/
Name:		<u></u>
	Michael C. Plickinger	Dat
Citizenship:	United States of America	
Residence:	2226 Scudder Avenue, St. Anthony Park, Minneson 55108 USA	•
Mailing Addre	to:	
(If different the	II Residence)	
	Surandermento 8-17-	01
Name	L. Edward Scriven II	Dat
Citizenship:	United States of America	
Residence	2044 Cedar Lake Parkway, Mianeapolis, Mirancapta 55416 USA	
Mailing Addre		
Of different the	m Residence)	e e
_	•	
	•	
Name:	Ron Anderson	Dat
Citizenships	United States of America	
Residence:	13645 Garren Avenuc, Apple Valley, Minnesota 55124 USA	

Declaration and Power of Atlanty
Serial No.: 09/647,475
Filing Data: 29 September 2000
Int'l Filing Data: 17 September 1999
Title: COMPOSITE DEVICES INCORPORATING BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL AND METHODS

Page 4 of 4

§ 1.56 Duty to disclose information material to patentability.

- A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is nevero of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a daty of candor and good faith in deating with the Office, which includes a daty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deeped to be salisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by \$51.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intumional indeconduct. The Office oneourages applicates to carefully examine:
 - (1) Prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and
 - (2) The closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defface, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.
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 of a claim; or
 - 2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:
 - (i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or
 - (ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

A prime facte case of apparentability is established when the information compete a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.

- (c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this acction are:
 - (1) Each inventor named in the application;
 - (2) Each attorney of agent who prepares or prospectates the application; and
 - (3) Every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.
- (d) Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclosing information to the attorney, agent, or inventor.
- (a) In any communition-in-part application, the thity under this section includes the dwy to disclose to the Office all information known to the person to be graterial to putentability, as defined in paragraph (b) of this section, which became available between the fiting date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

Docket No: 110.00810101

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

We, Olav E. Lyngberg, Michael C. Plickinger, L. Edward Seriven II, and Ron Anderson, deciare that: (1) our respective citizenships and residence/mailing addresses are indicated below; (2) we have reviewed and understand the contents of the specification identified below, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to herein, (3) we believe that we are the original, first, and joint inventors of the subject maner in

COMPOSITE DEVICES INCORPORATING BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL AND METHODS

Piling Date: 29 September 2000

Serial No.: 09/647,475

(day, month, year)

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4. X no such applications have been filed.

b. ___ such applications have been filed = follows:

<u> </u>	35 USC \$119(a)-(d), \$365(a), and/or \$365(b)	
COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	DATE OF ISSUE
ALL FOREIGN AP	PLICATIONS, IF ANY, F	LED BEFORE THE PRIO	RITY APPLICATION (9)
COUNTRY	APPLICATION	DATE OF WILING	DATE OF ISSUE

(day, mobih, year)

FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, CLAIMING PRIORITY UNDER

NUMBER

Tale 37. Code of Pederal Recylptions, \$1.56 is reproduced on the attached page.

Declaration and Power of Attorney

Serial No.: 09/647,475

Page 2 of 4

Filing Date: 29 September 2000 Int'l Piling Date: 17 September 1999

TIME: COMPOSITE DEVICES INCORPORATING BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL AND METHODS

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a. ___ no such applications have been filed.

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APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, mostle, year)	STATUS (patented, pending, abandoned)
PCT/US99/21581	17 September 1999	Completed

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Declaration and Power of Attorney

Serial No.: 09/647,475

(If different than Residence)

Filing Date: 29 September 2000 Int'l Filing Date: 17 September 1999

THE COMPOSTIE DEVICES INCORPORATING BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL AND METHODS

Page 3 of 4

Please direct all correspondence in this case to:

Attention: Ann M. Mueting Muoting, Rassch & Gebharth, P.A. P.O. Box 581415

Misscapolia, MN 55458-1415 Telephone No. (612) 305-1217 Customer Number 26813

Wherefore, we pray that Letters Prient be granted to us for the investion described and claimed in the specification identified above and we hereby subscribe our names to the faregoing specification, claims, and Declaration, on the data indicated below.

Name: Olav K. Lyngherg Date United States of America Citizenship; Residence 6 Piedment Drive, Princeton Junction, New Jersey 08550 USA. Minling Address: (If different than Residence) Name Michael C. Plickinger Date Citizenship: United States of America Residence 2226 Soudder Avenue, St. Anthony Park, Minnesota 55108 USA Meiling Address: . (If different than Residence) Namo L. Edward Scriven II Dure Citizenship: United States of America Residence 2044 Cedar Lake Parkway, Minneapolia, Minneaota 55416 USA Mailing Address: (If different than Residence Name: Ron Anderson Citizenship: United States of America Residences 13645 Garren Avenue, Apple Valley, Minnesota 55124 USA Mailing Address:

Declaration and Power of Actorney
Serial No.: D9/647,475
Filing Date: 29 September 2000
Int'l Filing Date: 17 September 1999
Title: COMPOSITE DEVICES INCORPORATING BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL AND METHODS

Page 4 of 4

\$ 1.56 Duty to disclose information material to patentability.

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 - (2) The closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.
- (b) Under this section, information is material to palentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and
 - (I) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima factor cane of unpatentability of a claim; or
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 - (2) Each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and
 - (3) Every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignment or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.
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